Assembly

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Consumer Affairs

Senate Bill 421

Relating to: exempting persons who braid hair or who engage in certain activities preparatory to portrait photography from licensing requirements administered by the barbering and cosmetology examining board.

By Senator Moore; cosponsored by Representatives L. Young, R. Young, Albers, Grothman, Seratti and Riley.

March 16, 1998

Referred to committee on Consumer Affairs.

March 23, 1998

PUBLIC HEARING HELD

Present:

(6) Representatives Otte, Johnsrud, Ott, M.

Lehman, Williams and Black.

Absent:

(2) Representatives Urban and Hasenohrl.

Appearances for

- Senator Gwendolynne Moore, author
- Representative Leon D. Young, co-sponsor
- Secretary Marlene A. Cummings, Department of Regulation & Licensing

Appearances against

- John Fahey, Chair, Barbering & Cosmetology Examining Borad, Madison
- Mary Dalton, Salons & Beauty (Cosmetology) School, Milwaukee
- Thomas Holman, Sr., United Cosmetlogists Association, Milwaukee
- Paula Hamer, National Cosmetology Association of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
- Clauch Hamilton, Qualiss Professional Hair Braiding, Milwaukee
- Ronnie Gilchrist, Milwaukee
- Marie Alice Loasset, Qualiss Professional Hair Braiding, Milwaukee

Appearances for Information Only

• None.

Registrations for

• Earnestine Moss, Madison

Registrations against

- Linda Saugestad, National Cosmetology Association of Wisconsin, Hartland
- Representative David Ward

March 24, 1998

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present:

(8) Representatives Otte, Johnsrud, Ott, M.

Lehman, Urban, Williams, Hasenohrl and

Black.

Absent:

(0) None.

Moved by Representative Johnsrud, seconded by Representative Williams, that **Senate Bill 421** be recommended for concurrence.

Ayes:

(4) Representatives Johnsrud, Williams,

Hasenohrl and Black.

Noes:

(4) Representatives Otte, Ott, M. Lehman and

Urban.

Absent: (0) None.

MOTION FAILED, Ayes 4, Noes 4, Absent 0
NOT REPORTED OUT OF COMMITEE

Daniel A. Young

Committee Clerk (

Assembly

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Committee on Consumer Affairs

Senate Bill 421

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Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Representative Johnsrud, seconded by Representative Williams, that Senate Bill 421 be recommended for concurrence.

Ayes: (4) Representatives Johnsrud, Williams, Hasenohrl and Black.

Noes: (4) Representatives Otte, Ott, M. Lehman and Urban.

Absent: (0) None.

MOTION FAILED, Ayes 4, Noes 4, Absent 0
NOT REPORTED OUT OF COMMITEE

Daniel A. Young Committee Clerk

Vote Record

Assembly Committee on Consumer Affairs

Date: 3-24-98 Bill Number: SB421 Moved by: Sonnahud Motion: Concumence	E	xecutive Se	ession d by:	Public H	
Committee Member Rep. Clifford Otte, Chair Rep. DuWayne Johnsrud Rep. Alvin Ott Rep. Michael Lehman Rep. Frank Urban Rep. Annette Polly Williams Rep. Donald Hasenohrl Rep. Spencer Black Totals:	Aye O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O		Absent	Presen	nt Absent

2/04/70

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING =

P.O. Box 8935

Rep Clifford Otte/Dan your of
HERE IS THE MATERIAL YOU

RECENTLY REQUESTED.

PLEASE CALL IF WE CAN

ASSIST FURTHER.

(608) 266-2112 8608

623 (Rev. 7/86)

March 23, 1998

Representative Clifford Otte, Chair Consumer Affairs 225 Northwest, Capitol Madison, WI 53703

Dear Representative Otte:

This is my written testimony in favor of Senate Bill 421 (SB 421), relating to: exempting persons who braid hair or who engage in certain activities preparatory to portrait photography from licensing requirements administered by barbering and cosmetology examining board. I was unable to stay and speak at the hearing today but I want you to know some of my reasons for supporting SB 421.

My contentions are as follows:

- •SB 421 will continue to allow individuals the opportunity to conduct fair trade, bartering or exchange of goods and services without guilt and fear of harassment.
- •If SB 421 is not passed, there may be devastating effect on some families. One would have to forego an opportunity to earn honest money when he/she is asked to braid one's hair for a price because he/she is not licensed.
- •Hair braiding is a natural process for many individuals and their families and need not be regulated by government. I am one of 14 children who lived to adulthood. There were seven girls and seven boys, all of whom got their hair braided at some point, except two boys. There was never a case of infection due to the braiding process. I also braided friends and neighbors' hair. It was left to us to work out the terms. Most of the times there was no charge but should one be forced give their services away simply because they may not be able to afford a license to practice? Fair payment for goods and services should not for the privileged few who can afford to obtain a license through formal education. Some of our best hair braiders have never set foot in a classroom. They have acquired the skill and talent through their cultural experiences and/or they have engaged in hair braiding as an art form.
- •Licensing of hair braiders does not guarantee that the technicians will embrace or practice the hygienic techniques that keep an establishment free of germs and diseases. Recently, I watched a documentary on beauty saloons and how unsanitary they were in with their hygienic practices. All of the salons were licensed.
- •There is little need to be concerned about hair braiders evading taxes. If they are operating as legitimate business, they must pay taxes like everyone else. There will always be some who evade taxes and if they are caught, they will be punished under the law. Licensing requirements of will not solve the tax issue.

- •Consumers will help to keep unsanitary braiders out of the market. Most consumers pay attention to the instruments used by the technicians, whether they are dirty or clean. Some consumers even take their own comes etc., and most do not become repeat customers if the shop is unsanitary.
- •Most importantly, SB 421 will prevents adverse effects on families because it will allow individuals to charge for their services without fear of breaking the law or imprisonment because they don't possess a license. To do otherwise would be clear disenfranchisement. It would set up the potential for individuals who are trying to make an honest living to be entrapped for requiring a fair wage or payment for a service provided. No women, man or child should have to be concerned about going to jail for providing a service for a reasonable cost. We have too many people in prison already. Do the right thing and vote for SB 421.

Thank you considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Éarnestine Moss Concerned Citizen

PETITION IN SUPPORT OF 1997 SENATE BILL 421

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PETITION IN SUPPORT OF 1997 SENATE BILL 421

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PETITION IN SUPPORT OF 1997 SENATE BILL 421

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March 24, 1998 Angressman Clifford Atte Po Box 8953 Madison, Winimin 53708-8453 RE: assembly Bill 182 Den Congressmen atte, The are concerned about assembly hill # 182 and are asking you to not it. First of all, we are concerned for the public sufity and Sanitation when services are performed by untrained and unlicensed professionals. Secondly, it is taking business away from buined persessionals professionals. Kirdly, the quidelines law braiding selated to haristyling are not very clearly stated. We think you in advance for your attention to this matter. Sincerely, Many Uline Jazdunki OTHER SIGNATURES FOLLOW

Jackie S. Darnich

Carrie Mulder

Jessiea Dickerson

Frin Duranaghy

Judy Schrolter

Jeid McConaghy

Jiel M dee-Jaylor

Jiel M dee-Jaylor

Johan Schliert

Melista Ridger

Chiaston Schlier



235 North National Avenue P.O. Box 1940 Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1940



Congressman Clifford OHK P.O. BOX 8953-Madison, Wi 53708-8953

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Assembly Sergeant at Arms Room 411 West State Capitol Madison, WI 53702	Please return this slip to a me	Speaking for Information only; Neither for nor against:	Registering against:	Registering in lavor:	Speaking against:		(Representing)	(City & Zip Code)	(Street Address or Route Numb	(Name) 371 NEC	Sen. Moore	BIII No. SD 491	Date: March 23	. (Please print plainly)
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Assembly Hearing Slip

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Room 411 West

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Assembly Sergeant at Arms Room 411 West State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

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Assembly Sergeant at Arms Room 411 West State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

FISCAL ESTIMATE LRB or Bill No./Adm. Rule No. ORIGINAL Amendment No. ☐ UPDATE OA-2048 (R10/94) SB 421 ☐ CORRECTED ☐ SUPPLEMENTAL Subject Exempting persons who braid hair or who engage in certain activities preparatory to portrait photography **Fiscal Effect** No State Fiscal Effect State: Check columns below only if bill makes a direct appropriation or affects a sum sufficient appropriation. ☐ Increase Existing Appropriation ☐ Increase Existing Revenues ☐ Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb ☐ Decrease Existing Appropriation within agency's budget Yes No Decrease Existing Revenues ☐ Create New Appropriation Decrease Costs No local government costs. Local: 5. Types of local government units affected: 1. Increase Costs 3. Increase Revenue Towns ☐ Villages ☐ Cities Permissive Permissive Mandatory ☐ Mandatory 2. Decrease Costs 3. Decrease Revenue ☐ Counties Others Permissive Permissive ☐ Mandatory ☐ Mandatory ☐ School Districts ☐ WTCS Districts **Fund Sources Affected** Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations 20.165 (1) (g) **⋉** PRO ☐ GPR ☐ FED PRS ☐ SEG-S Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate This bill neither increases nor decreases department revenues or expenditures. Long-Range Fiscal Implications gency/Prepared by: **Authorized Signature** Date Department of Regulation and Licensing 2/5/98 Patricia C Ne Cournach Patricia C. McCormack (608) 267-2435

(-4657/1)

1997 Session

FISCAL ESTIMATE WORKSHEET				1	997 Sess	ion
Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect	S ORIGINAL	UPDATE		LRB or Bill No./Adr	n. Rule No.	Amendment No.
DOA-2047 (R10/94)	DOA-2047 (R10/94)				1	
Subject Exempting persons who braid hair or who engage in			/			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State	and/or Local Govern	nment (do not ir	nclude in ar	nualized fiscal e	ffect):	
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II. Annualized Costs:			Annu	alized Fiscal imp	act on Sta	te funds from:
A. State Costs by Category				eased Costs		reased Costs
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Local Assistance					_	
Aids to Individuals or Organizations					_	
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III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposa (e.g., tax increase, decrease in li	al will increase or decrease	state revenues	Incre	ased Costs	Decr	eased Costs
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NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$ 0	STATE			LOCAL	
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Department of Regulation and Licensing Patricia C. McCormack (608) 267-2435	Pari C		rich	ı	Date 2	/5/98

March 23, 1998

To: Assembly Committee on Consumer Affairs

From: Mr. Ron Gilchrist - President MABBA

Re: Senate Bill 421

Senate Bill 421 is a bill that will exempt individuals that braid hair, from having the license that is required by all hair professionals by the Barber/Cosmetology Examining Board. Senate Bill 421 came before the Barber/Cosmetology Examining Board and passed. The reason that was mostly stated was that there was no one to examine braid or the braid quality. If there is no one to examine the quality of the service, how is this valueing the safety of the community. The many problems that will possiblity occur, without some type of governance is tremendous.

The many transferable diseases that we have in our community such as Aids, Hepatitis, head lice, and ringworms, are health issues we must be concerned about. All professionals that provide a service to the community have a board of regulation. Why would the individuals that provide a braiding service be given any preference, as in not being regulated. In my opinion this bill that is before us today Senate Bill 421, should be amended to include that those that provide a braiding service at least, take a course in Sanitation & Hygiene for Barbers and Cosmetologist. This course is a sixty (60) hour course that also requires a written examine.

In this economic society inwhich we live, we must consider the health and safety of the public First.

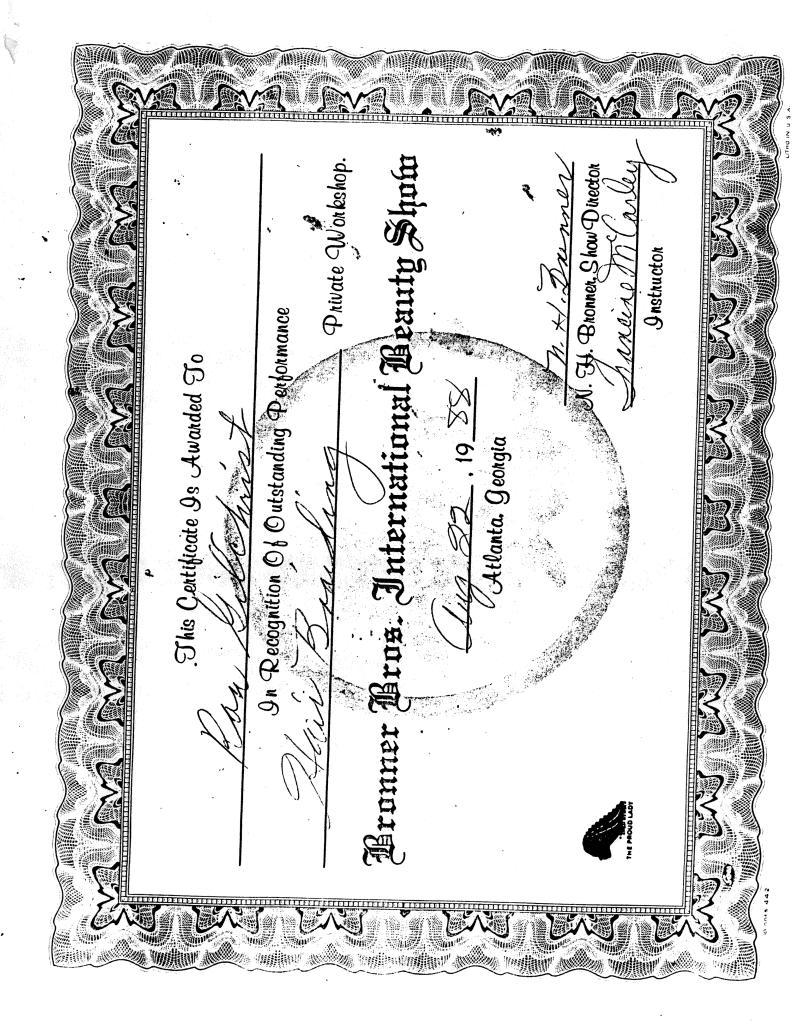
Thank You

Things To be tested on

1.	Hygiene	10hrs
2.	Bacteriology & Sterilization	20hrs
3.	Anatomy & Physiology of hair & skin disorders	50hrs
4.	Bactariology, Sterilization, and Sanitation	70hrs
5.	Laws, Rules, Professional Ethics and history of	the
	industry	L6hrs
	Total number of hours	166

Ron Gilchrist Sr.

President, M.A.BBA.



Monday, March 23, 1998

Public Hearing
Assembly Committee on Consumer Affairs
Madison, Wisconsin

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to speak in opposition to Senate Bill 421. Passage of this bill would allow unlicensed individuals to provide hairstyling services currently only provided by licensed professionals. These individuals would not be trained in state-licensed schools, nor examined by the state as license holders are.

This is not Cancun or Ocho Rios, where women solicit naïve tourists in the streets for braiding business. This is Wisconsin, a state that has always been a leader in legislation and regulation of the cosmetology profession.

Consumer health and safety must be our prime concern. How can we expect unlicensed hair braiders to follow the proper sanitation and health practices? How will the consumer know they could be placing their health at risk? Who's going to know if these individuals carry professional liability insurance?

As a licensed cosmetology professional I feel an ethical, as well as legal, responsibility to each one of my clients. I pursue continuous education, use only EPA-registered disinfectants on the tools I use, and I put the safety and well-being of my clients first.

I am concerned that if we allow braiding to become exempt from barber/cosmetology licensing, that some will not stop with just braiding. The saying "give a man an inch and he'll take a mile" didn't just come from someone's imagination. I predict that unlicensed individuals practicing braiding will start shampooing, then cutting and setting hair. One more step and they'll be applying chemicals. Who will protect the consumer? There are no longer state inspectors for licensed establishments in Wisconsin, much less someone to inspect those who are unlicensed.

Please think about these issues before voting on Senate Bill 421. The state that was first to create a Cosmetology license, a forerunner in issuing Nail Technician and Aesthetician licenses, and a pioneer of the cosmetology apprentice program should not allow unlicensed individuals to perform personal care services on the Wisconsin consumer.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Professionally,

Paula Hamer, Wisconsin Barber/Cosmetology Manager License #25100

Past President of the National Cosmetology Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

3741 North 82nd Street

Milwaukee, WI 53222

414-462-1029



National Cosmetology Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

To: The Committee on Consumer Affairs

On Monday, March 23, 1998, you will hold a Public Hearing on Senate Bill 421. As an educator I have a responsibility to a previously scheduled class, updating their skills and knowledge. Because of that responsibility I am not able to be in attendance.

You will hear from several members of Cosmetology Industry who also oppose this Bill. They will discuss safety, sanitation, education, client protection and other points of concern regarding this issue. I urge to listen carefully.

I would like to make a couple of additional points:
.This is NOT an issue specific to the African American community. The ramifications of this Bill will affect members of the Cosmetology Industry throughout the State. The viability of their salons and their incomes is at stake. More than six thousand salons throuhout the State provide licensing fees and are part of the tax base. There needs to be continuity as well as accountability that is equal for all.

Diseases of the scalp and infection control are topics in the curriculum of trained and educated stylists. Be it head lice. Be it ringworm. Be it HIV or AIDS. Individuals must be trained to recognize and respond to these and other issues and similar issues that could be spread within the family, home or community.

.Should you review the minutes of this Bill as it came before the Senate and you read about a gentleman from Washington DC, I would suggest you question his interests. Is he concerned with the issue itself? Or, do his interests lie in selling franchises to open schools that train individuals in this discipline without coming under the umbrella of licensing.

If, after hearing everyones concerns, you cannot justify defeating this Bill, then, I highly recommend that it be ammended to include a minimum standard of hours required to be licensed under present guidelines. While I am opposed to the fracturing of our license, it would address the issues of safety, sanitation and education. Issuing a partial license would also allow for a place of business in which an individual may practice their craft, take advantage of the business and marketing strategies within the licensed salon and become part of the tax base within their community.

I would certainly volunteer to work on a committee that would set standards and write a curriculum specific to this discipline. There are many other members of our Industry trained and willing to participate in such an action as well.

Thank you for your time.

Joan Kornitz, President National Cosmetology Association of Wisconsin March 22, 1998

Dear Esteemed Members of the Committee of Consumer Affairs,

By way of introduction, my name is Ruby Jackson. I am the owner of Trendsetters Salon, LTD. at 4734 West Lisbon Ave. in Milwaukee. I have owned this licensed salon for many years and employ individuals by the State of Wisconsin licensed Practitioners/Managers. I work to create an environment of growth and stability for Black members of the Cosmetology Industry. My salon caters to the Black client of Milwaukee.

I am unable to attend the Public Hearing for S421 as I HAVE A CLIENT SCHEDULED FOR A FULL HEAD BRAID, a service I offer in my salon.

I am opposed to this bill. Unlicensed individuals will have no education in the importance of safety, sanitation and client protection. In order to work in a licensed establishment, the individual must also hold a license issued by the State of Wisconsin. Without that license they cannot work in my, or any other establishment licensed under current regulations. The economics of the licensed salon in my community will be affected.

Please vote against this issue in order to protect the client, the professionalism of the industry and the survival of salons such as mine.

Sincerely,

Ruby Jackson

Tuesday Feb 17, 1998

PETITION IN SUPPORT OF 1997 SENATE BILL 421

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2.	Tameka Lockett	5018 N. 65+	h 578	0278	
3	MICHOILE Brooks	Tire 8440 N 14	# 571-	165.	
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PETITION IN SUPPORT OF 1997 SENATE BILL 421

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16. Sherila Trickett 20407 W. Sheridan 4104-8847
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18. Jallana Waller 4812 N 25th 447-8083
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PETITION IN SUPPORT OF 1997 SENATE BILL 421

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Feb. 14, 1998 Saturday

PETITION IN SUPPORT OF 1997 SENATE BILL 421

	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
1.	Tazanishia Leftare	5355 N 25th	227-9718
2.	polisha have	1745 N#20rd St.	938-4997
3.	Tamela Gardner	2816 N.525th	s 871.0596
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PETITION IN SUPPORT OF 1997 SENATE BILL 421

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1.	Anyled Stray 440 6 W. Burley 414-441-7772
2	Shupe Johnaly 907 W. Cheuphre Ct. 358-2213
3.	Marchell Martin 2462 N 41 St 873-5714
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11.	Felicia (Jackson 2425 Fi N.17th St. 542-0982
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17.	Dyrburg Juncan 3437 N. 5th (+427-6378)
18.	Thitchell 70581128931-882
19.	Watty Jay 3806 115 933-0597
20.	Louis Hampton 374/1147 " 445-3799



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING

Marlene A. Cummings Secretary

1400 E. WASHINGTON AVENUE P.O. BOX 8935 MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8935 (608) 266-2112

Tommy G. Thompson Governor

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 421

Before the Assembly Committee on

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Room 225 NW State Capitol

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1998, 2:00 P. M.

Good afternoon, Chairperson Otte and members of the committee. My name is John Fahey, chair of the Barbering and Cosmetology Examining Board. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in opposition to SB 421 on behalf of the Barbering and Cosmetology Examining Board.

Under current law, with certain exceptions, a person may not engage in barbering, cosmetology, aesthetics (which includes certain activities related to skin care) or manicuring unless he or she is granted a license by the Barbering and Cosmetology Examining Board.

SB 421, would exempt persons from licensing, who engage in hair braiding, which is defined as weaving hair for compensation without coloring, permanent waving, relaxing, removing or chemically treating the hair.

The Barbering and Cosmetology Examining Board opposes the bill as it exempts persons who do not have a license granted by the Board from engaging in barbering and cosmetology. The Board believes that this bill does not address the sanitation and safety concerns requiring all combs, lifts, and brushes, rollers and any other contact equipment to be cleaned with soap or detergent and water prior to use. This concern relates to implements used in hair braiding.

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State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING

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Tommy G. Thompson Governor

TESTIMONY SB 421 COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Room 225 NW State Capitol Monday, March 23, 1998 2:00 P.M. Marlene A. Cummings, Secretary

Chairperson Otte and members of the Committee on Consumer Affairs. I appreciate having the opportunity to explain why the Department of Regulation and Licensing needs this legislation to once and for all clarify that the definition of Barbering and Cosmetology does not include "braiding."

Arranging, styling, dressing, shampooing, cleansing, curling, dyeing, tinting, coloring, bleaching, waving, cutting, shaving, trimming, relaxing, singeing or performing similar work upon the hair or beard of any person by any means is the statutory definition of barbering and cosmetology. Legislators responsible for merging Barbering and Cosmetology and in working with the department to achieve that end in 1987, very carefully crafted the definition of barbering and cosmetology to include those techniques that could have an adverse impact on the consumer. Braiding was never included in the definition. In fact, people generally wore braids "undercover" because braids were not socially acceptable as proper business attire nor for wear outside of the home without a cover. There were a couple of instances when bank employees were dismissed from employment because of their braids. They were caught in the anti-braid dress code.

All procedures that require competence because of the harm that incompetence can do to the consumer is included in the barbering and cosmetology school curriculum. All procedures of this nature are identified in the job analysis conducted before the curriculum is set and before the examination is established. Braiding does not appear on either.

Braiding is defined as the weaving of three plaits of hair together. A plait is a length of hair, straw or ribbon consisting of at least three pieces, interlaced. Braiding can more accurately be defined as an art form where ribbons, beads, and/or ribbon are woven primarily into the hair. Plaits of cloth can also appear on clothing, i.e. the ornamental binding worn on uniforms.

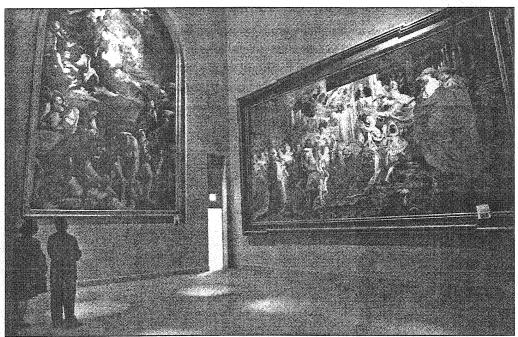
The weaving of the hair into art forms desired by constituents takes a great deal of creativity and skill, are not generally found in a formal school setting. It takes years of experience to create the desired outcome. Chemicals nor heat are used.

Requiatory Boards

Holders of Barbering and Cosmetology licenses are required to provide only those services which they are competent to perform by training or experience and are licensed to provide under their administrative code. (BC 2) If they have not been taught to perform the intricate techniques of plaiting the hair into braids, I cannot see how they could possibly claim that braiding is inherent within the definition and I would suggest that they may be in violation of their own code. Sanitation does not appear to be a problem. We have not heard any complaints about hair braiding connected with sanitation.

Lack of clarity about the definition poses other kinds of problems for the department. Members of the department suggest that it would be a good idea to get this legislation passed so that salons that wish to offer braiding services can do so. This would be a winwin situation for the consumer.

Last of all to include everything in the definition of barbering and cosmetology that can, in time, generate an income is a very bad precedent for the state to set. On the horizon are ethnic hair art forms, i.e. dred locks, knots and twists. The industry will want to say you have to be licensed to do this also. Regulation is not about keeping people from performing services where there is no apparent risk. It is not about fencing people out. It is about appropriately protecting the public from demonstrated harm. Thank you for your time and I hope this bill is acted on favorably.



Full-size ceramic copies of Guercino and Rubens paintings on display at Japan's Otsuka Museum of Art

JAPAN

Old Masters for the Formula 409 Generation

TRY TO IMAGINE AN ART MUSEUM WITH A COLlection of nothing but copies. It wasn't so hard to picture for curators of Japan's new Otsuka Museum of Art, where visitors won't find any authentic canvases. Instead, they'll see more than 1,000 full-size ceramic-tile replicas of da Vinci's "Mona Lisa," Monet's "Water Lilies" and

other famous works. The \$320 million house of re-creations is the unoriginal idea of museum namesake and patron Masahito Otsuka, who says the dupes are more durable than the originals. But posterity may not be his only concern. The museum's ceramic copies are created with technology his company develops and licenses.

SPACE

Watchamacallit

UILDING A SPACE STATION IS proving easier than naming one. During a recent planning meeting, NASA and its multinational project partners couldn't come up with a more awe-inspiring name for the international space station, which begins construction in June. Organizers have already passed on The Alpha, which was too simplistic. The Dual Keel was more descriptive than imaginative. Space Station Freedom sounded too American. And The Power Tower, well, that was a little phallic. With 16 countries now invested in the project, coming up with a name may be a linguistic and a diplomatic dilemma. Seems even rocket scientists can be stumped.



Volunteering: Satisfaction guaranteed

SPRING BREAK

Do Good, Not Jelly Shots

STUDENTS LOOKING TO BRING home more than a suntan from spring break are resorting to volunteer vacations. Over the next few weeks an estimated 20,000 kids will trade in their free time to join projects like the

Habitat for Humanity/
Maxwell House Collegiate Challenge, which builds homes for lowincome families. While Habitat is the best known, there are plenty of other agencies that get less publicity but need just as much help, says Break Away's Kevin Roberts. His Tennessee-based organi-

zation connects students with groups in need, like the Cherokee Nation Head Start program, Illinois's Greater Community AIDS Project and the Good Neighbor Settlement House in Texas. Students seem to be hearing the call; Break Away works with 350 schools already, with more to come. So much for the slacker generation.

LUCY HOWARD and ARLYN TOBIAS
GAJILAN with bureau reports

STYLE

Legal Tangle

AALIB-DIN ABDUL UQDAH says he's just trying to get the government out of his and his clients' hair. As head of the American Hairbraiders & Natural Haircare Association, he's filed suits in New York, Ohio, Texas and California, where it's now illegal to braid hair without a license and up to 1,600 hours of cosmetology training. The braiding ban is a cultural and constitutional issue for many African-Americans, says Uqdah. "They're denying people their right to earn a living," he says. What used to simply be taught on porches and at mothers' knees must now by law be learned in compulsory classes.



Hairbraiders: Tied by the law

WILDLIFE

The Coldest Profession

CIENTISTS HAVE FOUND what appears to be the world's southernmost red-light district. Female penguins on Ross Island (some 800 miles from the South Pole) are prostituting themselves for small stones, which they use as building blocks for nesting platforms. "What the single male gets is copulation," says Dr. Fiona Hunter of Cambridge University, who's observed the avian sex workers in action. "He may also get offspring." For the female, there is a reward for a job well done. Satisfied customers sometimes tip with a second round of stones.



NEW YORK

neurial paths out of poverty. energetic poor seeking entrepreliani's emphasis on fighting crime fork remains a tough town for the as made the city more livable, New 10wever, while Mayor Rudolph Giuany visitor. Unfortunately The Big Apple is a bustling cannot help but fascinate energetic metropolis tha

the best hope for the poor. of a municipality intent more on ship?," paints a depressing picture prosper. The result is to hinder the enriching special interest groups and safety." His new study, "Is New authority to protect public health and of economic growth that offers han encouraging its citizens to York City Killing Entrepreneurenterprise often far exceed any egitimate exercise of government's pation after occupation, obstacles to Institute for Justice, is that "in occu-(Chip) Mellor, president of the The problem, reports William

prevent or stifle honest enterprise." array of laws and regulations that preneurship face a bewildering to follow in this tradition of entrevendors and shop owners." But no ate vibrant communities whose pilgrants joined the native-born to crewhere traditionally waves of immicourse, but it symbolizes what has longer: "Today, New Yorkers seeking lars were the local merchants, strap capitalism than New York City, gone so badly wrong in America. Observes Mr. Mellor, "No city is more famous for its history of boot-New York City is not alone, of

ple's entrepreneurial efforts are The regulations that squash peo-

maze o

wrestling matches, to remove and ment privileges. have become essentially governopen to people of modest means, way, many jobs, especially those parking lot or a junk shop." In this dump snow and ice, to set up a an usher or to sell tickets at videocassette recorders, to work as "One needs a license to repair al license and creates public ments for receiving an occupationties, sets cumbersome requiremonopolies. Writes Mr. Mellor: the number of permits for activi-Directory. New York City restricts many; Mr. Mellor focuses on occupational restrictions, which alone 73 pages of the city's Officia

tive routes in the city — lower and should be 13,595 cabs. (The numrecoup, drivers naturally focus lion costs upward of \$175,000. To ber later decreased through attrifor a visitor — involves taxis. In heir attention on the more lucraion.) Today, a so-called taxi medal-— and certainly the most irritating The most famous permit ceiling the city decided that there

simply operate illegally

ty, a problem to be managed or conwide. As Mr. Mellor puts it, New allows only 230 newsstands citytained rather than a wave to be tion. The municipal government goods. At least three times as many vendors and 1,700 sellers of other merchandise subject to confiscavendors operate illegally, with their iability rather than an opportunitoday the city allows only 4,000 food known for its street peddlers. But fork seems to treat "vendors as a

operators' earnings. As a result, many hair braiders must work and thereby enhance incumbent informally and illegally. designed to restrict competition by current practitioners, are technicians, process has nothing to do with pubto cut hair. And the licensing nity. They must learn everything necessary for hair braiders, who of courses to become a hairdresser entrenched interests protect their Rather, the requirements, enforced through only 116 hours of training ic safety — emergency medical taught to hairdressers, such as how play an increasingly important role in the African-American commu-The same cosmetology license is al licensing. For instance, in New privileged positions is occupation-York state, one must take 900 hours Another means by which for instance, go

About 5,000 vans and minivans

an estimated 30,000 "gypsy cabs' Of course, the lack of a legal supply mid-Manhattan and the airports transportation elsewhere. Rather hasn't eliminated the demand for hoods. Such jitneys operate cheaper immigrant and minority neighborsengers daily, principally through streets, carrying some 20,000 pas are thought to ply New York City's than the government bus monopoly;

channeled. New York has also long been

> of whom now employ numerous route by which their owners, many "The van services have been the ping wherever passengers desire.

they are also more convenient, stop-

In addition, reports Mr. Mellor:

drivers, have worked their way up

venience for minority passengers jobs for minority workers and conto be vastly more important than tion with city buses. The power of public officials and benefits of public sector employees are considered the ladder of economic mobility." Alas, the city bans any competi-

get out of their people's way. they may inspire or, ultimately, employ. Such a culture of enterwhen governments across America But such a culture will flourish only catalyst for community building." prise is an essential and powerful pations, aids both those in business people routinely pursue their occuthousands of poor but ambitious ture of enterprise, one in which without deregulation. As Mr. Meland other major urban areas are for themselves and others whom lor points out: "The revival of a cul-But no reform program will work manifold, and there is no panacea. The problems of New York City

syndicated columnist. He is also an adjunct scholar at the Future of Freedom Foundation. the Cato Institute, is a nationally Doug Bandow, a senior fellow at



American Hairbraiders & Natural Haircare Association 202 723-5495

1st Braider's Legislative Summit 1996, Washington DC

AHNHA'S POSITION

The Other Civil Rights Struggle

The American Hairbraiders & Natural Haircare Association (AHNHA) opposes any attempts to license and/or regulate the cultural art form of African style hairbraiding in the United States. As part of a national association, with thousands of members and supporters throughout the United States, we will vigorously defend any attempt on the part of a cosmetology cartel to regulate our cultural art form.

African style hair braiding is a tradition within the African-American community; exempt from any licensure. States can no more license braiding, twisting, cornrowing or locking, than it can license religion; it is a part of the very fabric of who we are in America and our historical place in the world.

Any attempt to regulate African style braiding does not come from any public concerns, but from a cosmetology cartel made up of salon and school owners who are predisposed to control, manipulate and determine the economic power and destiny of African-American people, in general, women in particular; by controlling their means of earning a living. No state has any jurisdiction over hair braiding or their establishments. And other than being persuaded to stifle any competition to the traditional cosmetology industry, has gone far beyond its public health and safety edict.

AHNHA is protecting the cultural integrity of an art form; restoring a foot hold to entry level entrepreneurship with a direct tie-in to welfare reform. Bottom line ---- our proposal creates jobs, revenue, business and commerce for this country and, is environmentally safe; we use no harsh chemicals or caustic substances. We can put people to work, not set up entry level barriers to economic freedom.

Unlike traditional cosmetology, hair braiding, twisting, locking, chemical-free haircare; is part of the cultural fabric and integrity of a 4,000 year old art form and tradition amongst our community. It was brought to this country from Africa under adverse conditions, (slavery); and to this day, remains the only link to our cultural identity that survived the middle passage.

We are asking all community and religious leaders, politicians, union and business leaders, students; people of all races, creeds and ethnic backgrounds to support what you know is right; the cultural integrity of any group of people when their traditions are under attack.

WE NEED YOUR HELP. JOIN AHNHA TODAY!